

## Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715.425.0900  
www.rfcity.org



### PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

February 18, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### ROLL CALL

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the January 21, 2026 meeting

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### ACTION ITEMS

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. The Prairie Enthusiasts Update from Robert Marquis
3. 2026 Activity Guide Review

#### STAFF REPORTS

4. Conservation and Parks Report

#### CALENDAR

The next Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be 03/18/2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

#### ADJOURNMENT

***Council members may be in attendance for informational purposes only.  
No official Council action will be taken.***

**NOTE:** Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials to be in an accessible location or format may contact City Clerk Amy White at (715) 426-3408 or in person at 222 Lewis Street for accommodations. Requests for accommodations should be made at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting. Every effort will be made to arrange accommodations.

Post: City Hall/Library/Police Department 02/13/2026

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## PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Matt Janquart (Chair), Mei Mei Abdouch, Phil Galli, Brenda Gaulke, Melissa Pedrini, and Natasha Schaefer.

**Members Absent:** Jeff Bjork (Council Rep).

**Staff Present:** Brooks Ostendorf - Conservation and Parks Manager, Levi Myers - Natural Resources Coordinator, Kyle Mackey - Recreation Coordinator, Brenda Rundle - Customer Service Representative.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **MSC Gaulke/Abdouch approve the minutes of the Dec 17, 2025 Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) meeting. Unanimous.**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

William Hansen of the Town of River Falls spoke on behalf of Lake George and the animals found there. He encourages PRAB to work to preserve and enhance the valuable, unique, biodiverse feature of our community. Matt Janquart thanked Erica and the Public Works Staff for helping The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) with their clean-up of sections of the Kinni.

### ACTION ITEMS

2. Conservation and Parks Manager Brooks Ostendorf provided a memo with park impact fee analysis and recommendations. Staff recommends using available funds at three parks: Glen Park (nature-themed playground, multi-use sport court, multi-use building, trail connection, and landscaping), Sterling Ponds Park (picnic shelter, paved trails, and landscaping), and DeSanctis Park (water service to Grow to Share by spring 2026). Mei Mei Abdouch clarified that the PRAB offers advice and City Council makes the final decision. She would like to see \$10,000 go towards the Dog Park for shade structures because a lot of trees were removed due to EAB. After discussion, Park Board prefers to remove the landscaping from City Staff's recommendation list and add the dog park shade structures instead.

**MSC Abdouch/Schaefer to collect Park Impact Fees in a single fund that can be used at any park. Unanimous.**

**MSC Galli/Pedrini to approve the allocation of park funds for the City's designated three sites. After discussion, MSC Galli/Pedrini to amend the original motion to the allocation of park funds for the City's designated three sites without #3 and #5 (both landscaping) but adding shade structures at the Dog Park. Unanimous.**

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

## STAFF REPORTS

3. Brooks told PRAB to email him with any questions about the Comm Dev report that will be included at the back of the packet each month. He asked PRAB to think about desired plans for the land included in the proposed annexation of the Johnson Property. Levi thanked TPE for working on buckthorn removal at Foster Cemetery. EAB tree removal and maintenance have begun throughout the City. Kyle announced that camping reservations will open Feb. 2. Shelter reservations opened on Jan. 4 and there were 24 reservations within the first four minutes, and 65 reservations made in the first 18 minutes. Brooks then read an email from City Administrator Scot Simpson letting PRAB members know that with the dangerously cold weather coming in, that while we don't open shelters unsupervised, the police department has a plan with local agencies to help people find shelter, and officers are able to access shelters if needed for individuals on a limited, temporary basis in addition to the sheltering options that local agencies provide.

## CALENDAR

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

## ADJOURNMENT

**MSC Abdouch/Galli to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Customer Service Representative



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
**FROM:** Kyle Mackey, Recreation Coordinator  
**DATE:** February 18, 2026  
**TITLE:** 2026 PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITY GUIDE DRAFT

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### BACKGROUND

The City creates an activity guide each year to clearly communicate the programs, services, and opportunities offered to the community and to encourage broad participation. The guide serves as a centralized, accessible resource that helps residents understand what is available to them throughout the spring and summer, including camps, swimming lessons, adult recreation, sports leagues, special events, facility rentals, and other seasonal programs.

### DISCUSSION

Changes to the Activity Guide for 2026 can be found below:

#### New Offerings:

- Pep the Pig Preschool Minicamp.
- Blue Dog Youth Minicamp.
- Going Green Junior Minicamp.
- Intro to Camping Junior Minicamp.
- 2-week soccer session in August.

#### Removed Offerings:

- Beautiful Birds Parent/Child Camp – due to low number of registrations.
- Flower Fun Parent/Child Camp – due to low number of registrations.
- Teddy Bear Preschool Minicamp - due to low number of registrations.
- Out of this World Youth Minicamp - due to low number of registrations.
- Planes, Trains, and Cars Youth Minicamp – due to low number of registrations.
- Puzzle Palooza Junior Minicamp – due to low number of registrations.
- Sports of All Sorts Camp – due to low number of registrations.
- Grow to Learn Gardening Camp – due to instructor opting out of offering.
- Park and Play – due to low number of registrations.
- Biking: Pedal Pushers – due to low number of attendances.
- Walking: Drop-in Wednesday Walkers – due to low number of attendances.
- Tuesday/Thursday Only Swim Lessons – due to low number of registrations.

**Revised Offerings:**

- Adding a second time for the Spa Day Junior Minicamp.
- Adding more teams to the Sunday evening Parent/Child T-Ball League.
- Offering spring and fall Pickleball 101 rather than spring and summer.
- Offering Swim Lessons into August to allow for more flexibility with rain dates.

**CONCLUSION**

Changes to the 2026 Activity Guide are based on registration statistics from the previous year, current demand for new or different offerings, and resources available to offer each program. The 2026 Activity Guide will include various proposed changes as shown in this memo.

City of  
**RIVER FALLS**

**PARKS AND RECREATION  
ACTIVITY GUIDE  
2026**

**riverfalls.activityreg.com**  
City Hall / 222 Lewis St/ River Falls, WI 54022 / 715-425-0924



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
**FROM:** Brooks Ostendorf, Conservation and Parks Manager  
**DATE:** February 18, 2026  
**TITLE:** Conservation and Parks Report

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**This staff report is specific to the Conservation and Parks Division.**

**I) National Park Service – Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program**

- a. Staff have been working with the National Park Service (NPS) to create a Kinni River Greenway Recreation Plan, an update of which was shared as part of the Kinni Corridor Open House in June 2025. NPS has agreed to continue working with staff to further develop plans in three core areas, including:
  - i. **Funding:** to identify funding opportunities to support the proposed projects. This will include identifying grants and other potential funding sources.
  - ii. **Branding:** to develop a cohesive brand for the Kinni River Greenway Projects, including a logo that can be used throughout the implementation of these projects and beyond.
  - iii. **Communications:** to create a multi-year communications plan that will inform, engage, and build support among residents, partners, and stakeholders as projects move forward.

City staff will continue to keep the Park and Recreation Advisory Board informed as this work progresses, including presenting draft materials to the Board for feedback.